

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 08058 231419Z

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ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7658

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 8058

FOR ASST SECRETARY HARTMAN ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OEXC, PFOR, MARR, SP
SUBJECT: US-SPANISH COUNCIL STRUCTURE--US PARTICIPATION

REF: (A) STATE 260336 (B) MADRID 8005

1. I AM VERY DISAPPOINTED TO LEARN (REF A) THAT ASST. SECRETARY RICHARDSON WILL NOT BE ABLE TO COME TO MADRID TO INAUGURATE THE NEW JOINT COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS ON NOV 10.

2. AT THE FIRST MEETING OF THE JOINT SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE ON OCT 22 WE WERE ABLY REPRESENTED BY DEPUTY ASST. SECRETARY GANLEY OF OES, BUT NEVERTHELESS THE SPANISH DECLINED AT THE LAST MINUTE TO BE REPRESENTED BY THEIR DIRECTOR GENERAL, SENDING INSTEAD A DEPUTY. THIS IS NOT THE MOST AUSPICIOUS BEGINNING.

3. AS POINTED OUT IN REF B, WE STILL DO NOT KNOW HOW THE REPRESENTATION QUESTION WILL COME OUT FOR THE FIRST MEETING OF THE JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE, PROJECTED FOR LATE NOV OR EARLY DEC.

4. AS WE MOVE AHEAD WITHOUT AN PROMISE TO HOLD A MEETING OF COMMITTEE PRINCIPALS AT THE SEAT OF THE COUNCIL IN MADRID, QUESTION ARE INEVITABLY BEING RAISED BY OUR SPANISH COLLEAGUES AS TO HOW SERIOUSLY WE TAKE THIS NEW STRUCTURE. WHILE I COMPLETELY UNDERSTAND THE DIFFICULTIES ON OUR SIDE IN FINDING THE TIME TO
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TRAVEL TO MADRID FOR THIS PURPOSE, WE DID UNDERTAKE AN

OBLIGATION TO THE SPANISH TO MEET HERE FROM TIME TO TIME AT THE
LEVEL OF PRINCIPALS OF THE VARIOUS COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL. I
HOPE FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN OBTAINING REPRESENTATION HERE AT THE ASST.
SECRETARY LEVEL WHEN AT ALL POSSIBLE.
STABLER

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